

**SYSTEM, METHOD, AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT
FOR CREATING A HIERARCHY OF SOFTWARE COMPONENTS BASED ON THE
PROGRAMMING CONSTRUCTS THEREIN**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A hierarchy of software components is created based on the programming constructs
therein using a computer linked to a database having a collection of legacy software therein.
Key component characteristics, e.g., programming constructs are defined. These constructs
are assigned weights based on the difficulty or ease with which they can be reused in a new
software component for use with a Web system or other network system. The legacy
10 collection is searched to determine which, if any, of the key constructs are included therein.
An ordered list is output that includes a list of the components containing the key constructs.
The order of the list is based on the weight of the constructs in each component and the
frequency with which they occur in each component. The list is then used to determine the
effort and thus, the expense required to move entire components or blocks of code in the
15 components into a Web system or other network system.